GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:836
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
DEEP SEA FISHING .
Krishnadas Shri N.N.;Rana Shri Kashi Ram;Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) The total number of deep sea fishing vessels available at present and proposed to be available during 2006-2007;

(b) The facilities provided to the fishermen involved in fishing in deep sea;

(c) Whether the Government has given permission to any company for deep fishing from Indian sea;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) Whether the Government has made any study regarding the far- reaching consequences of deep fishing in Indian sea; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR.AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): There are 129 deep-sea fishing vessels available at present. An additional 596 vessels can be permitted under different resource specific categories.

(b): Coast Guard is having its presence in the EEZ for rendering every assistance out at sea. Further the deep-sea fishing vessels are permitted to receive bunkers at mid sea and to make mid sea transshipment of catches. Further a specified percentage of trained foreign crew is allowed in the initial years.

(c)&(d):Government has given letter of indent/letter of permission to 25 Indian companies so far for fishing in Indian EEZ as per details annexed.

(e)&(f):Government has been revalidating the fishable potential of our seas through an expert committee. As per the latest assessment the fishable potential stands at 3.93 million tones as against the current production of 2.94 million tonnes (2004). It is estimated that the major portion of additional production has to come from deep-sea sector.